



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 003750-006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	Mail Stop Amendment
Robert S. Block)	
Application No.: 08/697,542)	Group Art Unit: 2611
Filed: August 27, 1996)	Examiner: Vivek Srivastava
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)	Confirmation No.: 9969
INFORMATION LABELING AND)	
CONTROL)	
)	
)	

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Office Action of June 6, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully considered. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-captioned application.

Claims 27, 31, 34, 45, 47 and 61-66 remain pending in the application. Claims 45, 61, 63 and 65 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hite et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,774,170).

Claims 34, 62, 64 and 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hite et al (U.S. 5,774,170).

In the Office Action, the Examiner notes that claims 27 and 31 are allowed and has indicated that claim 47 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

An exemplary embodiment encompassed by Applicant's independent claims is illustrated in exemplary figure 2. Program material source 140 provides audio and video signals to a label editor 160, which includes information label generator 170, among other components. The viewer/editor views the program signals and can command the label editor 160 to generate appropriate labels with the information label generator 170, for example, according to the instantaneous content of the program signals. The information label generator 170, synchronized with the video signal, provides a transmitted information label TIL for transmission with the program signals. The TIL may be used to identify and characterize the content of the audio and video program signals.

The TIL may be inserted in an analog or digital video stream on one or more lines, for example, or can be split over a number of frames. The signals are then provided to the signal combiner 260. The combined signal is then received at storage 40, which can be connected to a scheduler 41 in the central station